Town of Needham Capital Improvement Plan January 2019

discharged into the MWRA system. Following a year in which high levels of I/I occur, the Town's MWRA assessment will increase at a rate that substantially exceeds the average increase for all MWRA members. An increase of this magnitude can adversely affect rates charged to Town customers. Consequently, retained earnings shall be maintained at a level sufficient to mitigate rate increases needed to fund large increases in the Town's assessment. That level shall be equal to the largest annual amount - for the prior six year period – by which the average rate of increase in assessments for all MWRA members exceeds the rate of increase in the Town's assessment, multiplied by the most current MWRA assessment.

<u>Unanticipated Budgetary Fluctuation</u>: Retained earnings shall be maintained at a level sufficient to fund unanticipated or emergency capital or operating expenditures. It shall be a goal to maintain an amount equal to 6% of the annual sewer operating budget and 10% of the annual water-operating budget.

<u>Restoration of Depleted Retained Earnings</u>: If, in any year, retained earnings fall below the targets established by this policy, it shall be the policy of the Board of Selectmen to set future rates to restore retained earnings to the target level over the following three year period.

Adopted by the Needham Board of Selectmen on April 20, 1999; revised June 6, 2003, revised January 12, 2010